

# Family Safety House



## Teacher & Parent Guide

Franklin Fire Department

Franklin, Tennessee

[www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire)

# Family Safety House

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# Message from the Chief



Thank you for bringing the Franklin Fire Department's 1st grade Family Safety House program to your school. We truly appreciate the opportunity to teach your students how to be safe from fire.

Each year more than 3,400 Americans die, and approximately 17,500 are injured in fires—many of which could be prevented. Equally as troubling is the number of fires set by children.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), between 2005 and 2009, an average of 56,300 child-playing fires were reported to U.S. municipal fire departments per year. These fires caused annual averages of 110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries, and \$286 million in property damage. Youth firesetting impacts the City of Franklin, as well. Here are just a few examples:

- January 2009 – a teen boy playing with antiperspirant spray and a lighter in his bedroom ignited a house fire.
- July 2010 – a young girl was hospitalized with serious burn injuries resulting from playing with gasoline and matches with other children in the basement of her grandparents' home.
- January 2013 – a 6th grade girl who was playing with a candle ignited a townhouse fire that claimed the life of two pets and caused significant damage.
- August 2013 – A child was burned in a treehouse fire that started when he and another boy were playing with a lighter and charcoal lighter fluid.
- August 2014 – a teen boy playing with a firework inside his home lost part of his hand when it exploded while he was holding it.

Using NFPA's updated award-winning Learn Not to Burn curriculum, which has provided fire-safety messaging for children for more than 40 years, we educate children about the dangers of playing with fire, and help them understand what to do should a fire occur. You can find links to the Learn Not to Burn lesson plans at [www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire).

Thanks for your willingness to keep your students and our community safe.

Sincerely,

Rocky Garzarek

Fire Chief

[rockyg@franklintn.gov](mailto:rockyg@franklintn.gov)

# Fire Facts

Every day Americans experience the horror of fire. But most people don't understand fire. Only when we know the true nature of fire can we prepare ourselves and our families. Each year more than 3,400 Americans die and approximately 17,500 are injured in fires, many of which could be prevented.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) believes that fire deaths can be reduced by teaching people the basic facts about fire. Below are some simple facts that explain the particular characteristics of fire.

## **Fire is FAST! There is little time!**

In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house. In minutes, a house can be engulfed in flames. Most deadly fires occur in the home when people are asleep. If you wake up to a fire, you won't have time to grab valuables because fire spreads too quickly and the smoke is too thick. There is only time to escape.

## **Fire is HOT! Heat is more threatening than flames.**

A fire's heat alone can kill. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air will scorch your lungs. This heat can melt clothes to your skin. In five minutes a room can get so hot that everything in it ignites at once: this is called flashover.

## **Fire is DARK! Fire isn't bright, it's pitch black.**

Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness. If you wake up to a fire you may be blinded, disoriented and unable to find your way around the home you've lived in for years.

## **Fire is DEADLY! Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do.**

Fire uses up the oxygen you need and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill. Breathing even small amounts of smoke and toxic gases can make you drowsy, disoriented and short of breath. The odorless, colorless fumes can lull you into a deep sleep before the flames reach your door. You may not wake up in time to escape.



# Overview

The Franklin Fire Department's Family Safety House is a specially designed trailer that allows children to experience a fire-like situation in a home setting, and helps to teach them life-saving skills. Recommended for first grade students (ages six and seven), the Family Safety House has a living/kitchen area and a bedroom with the following features:



- 911 Simulator – A firefighter in the control booth answers 911 calls from children and helps them practice calling for help, giving their name, address and problem.



- In the kitchen/living area, children learn to spot common dangers such as matches/lighters, candles and a hot pan on a hot stove. They also learn the importance of working smoke alarms and practicing a family fire escape plan.



- In the bedroom, children learn the importance of knowing two ways out of every room, with the help of a heated door. When children feel the door is hot, they learn this means there may be fire on the other side, and they must use their second way out (the window).



- After learning fire safety lessons and home fire survival skills, the smoke alarm sounds and the room fills with nontoxic "smoke" (water-based, theatrical fog). Children practice crawling low under smoke and follow instructions to exit the Family Safety House safely.
- The escape route leads children outside where they gather at their Outside Meeting Place. Upon completion, children receive an Outside Meeting Place ribbon, a plastic fire helmet and more. They also get a chance to look at the fire engine and firefighting tools and gear!

# Froggy's Fog a.k.a. "Smoke"

Purchased from Froggy's Fog, the "smoke" we use in our Family Safety House is the same water-based, theatrical fog you'll find in theaters, family entertainment centers, amusement parks, and haunted house attractions.

Froggy's Fog is made with de-ionized water and pharmaceutical grade chemicals, all approved by the FDA. There are two chemicals found in the Froggy's Fog smoke liquid:

1) Kosher glycerin greater than 99% pure and Food Grade USP\*

- 100% vegetable-based glycerin
- Hundreds of uses including sweet food additive and multi-purpose skin care

2) Kosher propylene glycol greater than 99% pure and Food Grade USP\*

- 100% pure propylene glycol
- Used in medicines, cosmetics, food, toothpaste, and industrial applications

**These chemicals could trigger asthma symptoms for those who have respiratory problems. For this reason, anyone who has asthma or respiratory problems (child or adult) should not participate in the smoke portion of the presentation (they may still participate in everything else leading up to the smoke).** We will help those individuals "escape" from the Family Safety House before we turn the smoke on.

You may view the Material Safety Data Sheet [here](#).

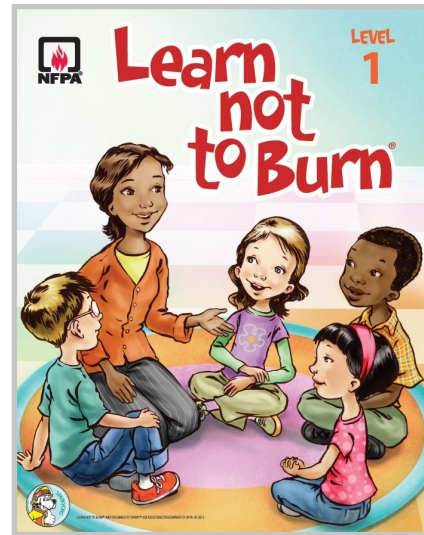
\*United States Pharmacopeia

# Curriculum

The Franklin Fire Department's Family Safety House curriculum is based on the National Fire Protection Association's *Learn Not to Burn* program for first grade students.

Learn Not To Burn has served as the pillar of NFPA educational programs for more than 40 years. The program reaches children using proven educational strategies that incorporate NFPA's philosophy of teaching positive, practical fire safety messaging.

Adhering to Learn Not to Burn guidelines, we present four key fire safety topics to Family Safety House participants:



1) Stay away from hot things

Children identify objects that are hot and how to be safe with them

2) Report an emergency

Children learn how to call 911 and report an emergency

3) Smoke alarms are important

Children learn to identify the sound of a smoke alarm and respond to it

4) Practice a fire drill

Children learn to:

- Crawl low under smoke
- Identify two ways out of every room
- Identify an Outside Meeting Place
- Get outside, stay outside

To access the Learn Not to Burn lesson plans visit [www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire).

# Teacher Information

- Book your visit! Simply call (615-791-3270) or email ([jamie.melton@franklinton.gov](mailto:jamie.melton@franklinton.gov)) your preferred dates. Request two days if you have more than three classes.
- Allow one hour per class of up to 24 students. Let FFD know what time you'd like to schedule each class.
- Obtain parent approval/consent forms for children to participate. You will find these at the end of this booklet and on our website at [www.franklinton.gov/fire](http://www.franklinton.gov/fire).
- Children who have asthma or other respiratory problems should not participate in the smoke portion of the demonstration.
- Each class will be divided into two groups of up to 12 students per group.
- One group will tour the Family Safety House while the other group attends a fire apparatus demonstration.
- The Franklin Fire Department requires that one teacher or teacher's aid remain with each group at all times to assist with direction of the students.
- If possible, incorporate fire safety lessons and activities into your existing science, language arts or social studies classes. For ideas please visit our website at [www.franklinton.gov/fire](http://www.franklinton.gov/fire).

## Preventing the spread of germs in the Family Safety House is a priority!

- Thorough cleaning is part of the Franklin Fire Department's daily Family Safety House presentation procedure. We wipe down and sanitize the FSH after each school visit.
- Regular hand washing, particularly before and after certain activities, is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others. If at all possible, please have your students wash their hands before attending the presentation.
- We will ask the students to use hand sanitizer before entering the house, as well.





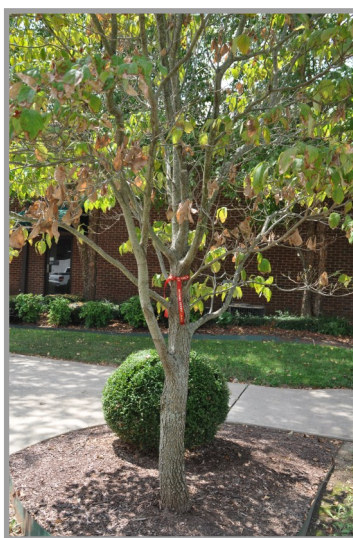
# Family Fire Safety Tips

## TOP 10 FAMILY FIRE SAFETY TIPS FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION

1. In the event of a fire, remember time is the biggest enemy and every second counts! You may have as little as 90 seconds to escape.
2. Escape first, then call for help.
3. Develop a home fire escape plan and designate an **Outside Meeting Place\***.
4. Make sure everyone in the family knows two ways to escape from every room.
5. Practice feeling your way out with your eyes closed.
6. Never stand up in a fire, always crawl low under the smoke and try to keep your mouth covered.
7. Never return to a burning building for any reason; it may cost you your life.
8. Having a working smoke alarm dramatically increases your chances of surviving a fire.
9. Practice a home escape plan frequently with your family.
10. Finally, if you're building a new home or renovating an existing one, consider residential fire sprinklers.

For more information about any of these tips, please visit the Franklin Fire Department's website at [www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire).

**\*Your child will bring home an Outside Meeting Place ribbon for your family to tie around the place you will meet outside if there's a fire inside.**





## Franklin Fire Department

### ACTIVITY CONSENT FORM AND APPROVAL BY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

Dear Parent/Guardian(s):

The Franklin Fire Department's Family Safety House will visit your child's class on: \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Date)

The Family Safety House is a 39-foot mobile classroom designed to help teach children burn prevention and fire escape techniques through the fun, safe simulation of common household dangers.

The Family Safety House fills with non-toxic, water-based theatrical fog to teach children to crawl low under smoke to safety. This is the same fog that is found in theaters, entertainment centers, amusement parks, and haunted attractions.

**Children who suffer from asthma or respiratory problems that may be irritated by theatrical fog should not participate in the fog portion of the presentation. They may still participate in the remainder of the program.**

For more information about Family Safety House features and our curriculum, please visit our website at [www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire) to view our **Teacher & Parent Guide**.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jamie Melton at (615) 791-3270 or [jamie.melton@franklintn.gov](mailto:jamie.melton@franklintn.gov).

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**Please check all that apply:**

\_\_\_\_\_ My child, \_\_\_\_\_, may tour the Family Safety House.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child, \_\_\_\_\_, may NOT tour the Family Safety House.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child, \_\_\_\_\_, has an allergy or respiratory condition that may be irritated by the theatrical fog and should not be in the house during that part of the tour.

\_\_\_\_\_ I grant permission for my child to be photographed during the Family Safety House presentation; and also grant permission for the photo to be used in City of Franklin/Franklin Fire Department publications, including media releases.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

How old are your smoke alarms?

ALL smoke alarms need to be **replaced** when they are **10 years old**.



## Departamento de Bomberos de Franklin

### CONSENTIMIENTO Y APROBACIÓN DE ACTIVIDAD POR PARTE DE PADRE O TUTOR LEGAL

Estimados Padres/ Tutores:

La Casa de Seguridad del Departamento de Bomberos de Franklin visitará la clase de su hijo en: \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Fecha)

La Casa de Seguridad es una aula móvil de 39 pies para ayudar enseñar a los niños prevención de quemaduras y técnicas para escapar un incendio a través le diversión y simulación de peligros comunes domésticos.

La Casa de Seguridad se llena con niebla teatral sin tóxico, a la base de agua para enseñar a los niños a arrastrarse bajo bajo del humo a la seguridad. Esta niebla es la misma que se encuentra en los teatros, centros de entretenimiento, parques de diversiones y atracciones embrujadas.

**Los niños que aparecen de asma o problemas respiratorios que pueden irritarse por niebla teatral no deberían participar en la porción de la niebla de la presentación. Ellos pueden participar en el resto del programa.**

Para obtener más información sobre La Casa de Seguridad, sus características y el plan de estudios por favor visite [www.franklintn.gov/fire](http://www.franklintn.gov/fire) para ver la guía de Padres y Maestros.

Si tiene preguntas o inquietudes, por favor póngase en contacto con Jamie Melton en (615)791-3270 o [jamie.melton@franklintn.gov](mailto:jamie.melton@franklintn.gov).

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**Por favor marque todas las que apliquen:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Mi niño, \_\_\_\_\_, puede visitor la casa de seguridad.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mi niño, \_\_\_\_\_, no puede visitor la casa de seguridad.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mi niño, \_\_\_\_\_, tiene alergia o una afección respiratoria que puede irritarse por la niebla teatral y no debería estar en la casa durante esa parte de la gira.

\_\_\_\_\_ Conceder permiso para que mi hijo/a sea fotografiado durante la presentación de la casa de seguridad, y también doy el permiso para la foto ser utilizado en el Departamento de Bomberos de la ciudad de Franklin/ Publicaciones incluyendo comunicados de prensa.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Firma del Padre / Tutor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fecha

¿Cuántos años tienen sus alarmas de humo?  
**Cada 10 años se deben de cambiar las alarmas de humo.**